

Roads & Transit



Regional Transportation
Investment District



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June 1, 2006

The Honorable Christine Gregoire
The Honorable Mary Margaret Haugen
The Honorable Ed Murray

Dear Governor Gregoire, Senator Haugen, and Representative Murray:

We are pleased to report that the lead agencies responsible for regional transportation are working together to produce an integrated package of major transportation improvements for the people of the Puget Sound region.

Your leadership during the last session of the Legislature gave us the tools to move forward – and we’ve rolled up our sleeves and we’re moving ahead. Leaders from the region – Pierce, King and Snohomish counties – are gathering together to determine the major transportation improvements that are needed by the *region*. We are focused on the major transportation corridors, and we are looking at both freeway and transit improvements. Our objective is to make sure the freeway and transit investments are integrated, and that they work to expand the capacity of the corridors to move vehicles and people.

The region needs – and the public wants – transportation improvements. The public wants to see traffic flow better and they want more transportation choices, now and in the future. The dramatic population increase forecast for our region demands that we make transportation investments. We are working closely with the Washington State Department of Transportation and the Puget Sound Regional Council.

This is truly an exciting and historic opportunity. The package we are putting together will provide for the most significant transportation investments in a generation – and it lays out the transportation investments we are going to make for the next 20 years!

This regional transportation package will build on the transportation investments being made possible by the Legislature’s enactment of the Transportation Partnership Act and the Nickel package, as well as its creation of Sound Transit before that. Thanks to those actions, the Washington State Department of Transportation just launched its busiest construction season in more than a decade. And Sound Transit projects are moving at full throttle – you can see the construction on the light rail project to Sea-Tac Airport. The Sound Transit board also just approved a plan to extend this regional high capacity transit system to the University of Washington.

The public is seeing the results of the Nickel and Sound Transit investments – and they want us to finish the job of creating a 21st century transportation system.. That’s why they have supported transportation proposals at the polls.

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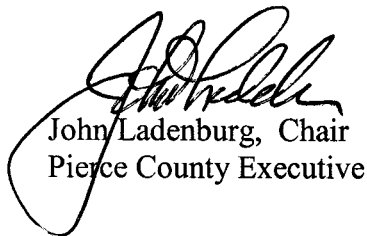
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We need to press ahead with additional investments to maintain our competitive place in the global economy and to protect our unique environment and quality of life.

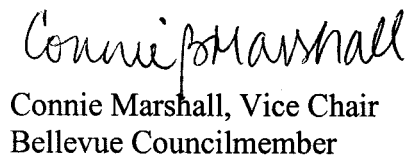
Your leadership and dedication to the transportation system is appreciated. We will do our part to keep you involved as we work to make this effort successful and have enclosed our schedule of key steps toward our integrated regional transportation system.

Sincerely,

**Sound Transit Board of Directors
Executive Committee Members**



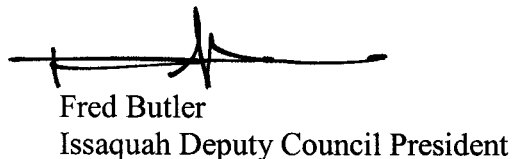
John Ladenburg, Chair
Pierce County Executive



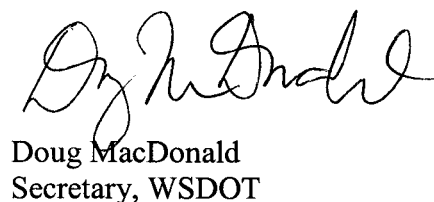
Connie Marshall, Vice Chair
Bellevue Councilmember



Mark Olson, Vice Chair
Everett Councilmember

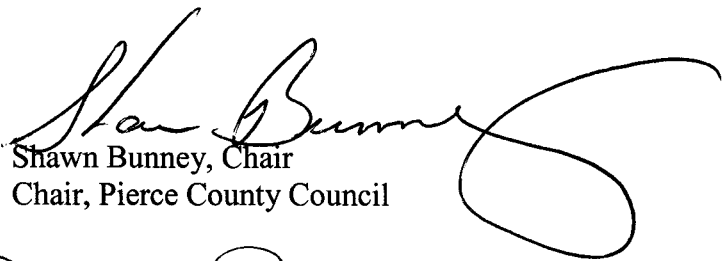


Fred Butler
Issaquah Deputy Council President

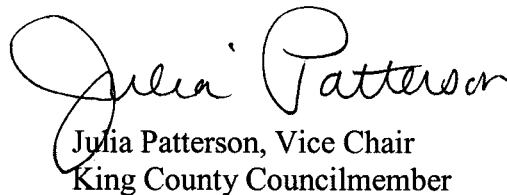


Doug MacDonald
Secretary, WSDOT

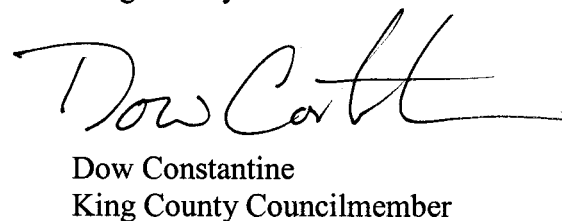
**Regional Transportation Investment District
Executive Board Members**



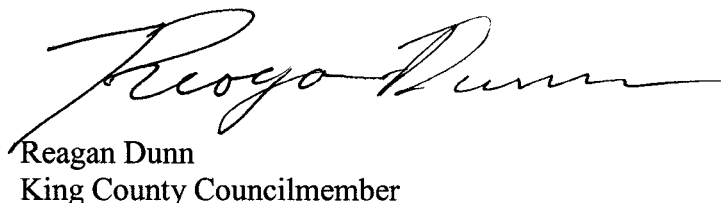
Shawn Bunney, Chair
Chair, Pierce County Council



Julia Patterson, Vice Chair
King County Councilmember



Dow Constantine
King County Councilmember



Reagan Dunn
King County Councilmember



Tim Farrell
Pierce County Councilmember

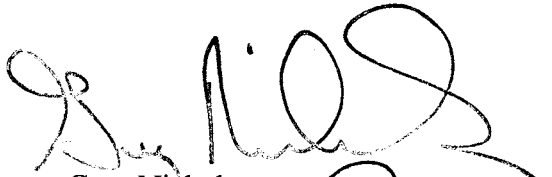
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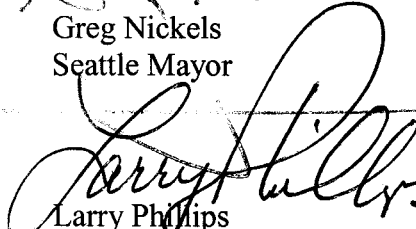
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Greg Nickels
Seattle Mayor




Dave Gossett
Vice Chair, Snohomish County Council



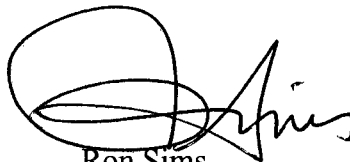
Larry Phillips
Chair, King County Council



Gary Nelson
Snohomish County Councilmember



Aaron Reardon
Snohomish County Executive



Ron Sims
King County Executive

c: Sound Transit Board
Regional Transportation Investment District Planning Committee
Washington House of Representatives Transportation Committee
Washington State Senate Transportation Committee
Lisa Brown, Senate Majority Leader
Mike Hewitt, Senate Minority Leader
Frank Chopp, Speaker of the House of Representatives
Richard DeBolt, Minority Leader, House of Representatives
State Legislators, King, Pierce and Snohomish Counties
Transportation Policy Board, Puget Sound Regional Council
Congressional delegation, Puget Sound Region
Regional Transportation Governance Commission